

Message Text

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64

ACTION ST-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 AID-05 PER-03

DRC-01 OIC-02 OPR-02 EB-07 CAB-05 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /058 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6591

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

UNCLAS MONROVIA 4447

CASABLANCA FOR RCAA

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, ATRN

SUBJ: CIVAIR - STATUS OF GSA'S FOR US CARRIERS AND AIR TRAVEL
REGULATIONS

REF: A) STATE 172327 B) MONROVIA 2850

SUMMARY: EMBASSY WISHES TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT CHANNEL AS MUCH
OFFICIAL TRAVEL AS POSSIBLE TO US COMPANIES, BUT AT SAME TIME
DOES NOT WISH TO SLIGHT GENERAL SALES AGENTS (GSA'S) OF US
CARRIERS WHO DO NOT SERVE MONROVIA IF THEY AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT
GTR'S. REQUEST CLARIFICATION. ASAP
END SUMMARY.

1. IN ADDITION TO IMPLEMENTING TRAVEL REGULATIONS CONTAINED
REF A, EMBASSY DESIRES CHANNEL ALL OFFICIAL TRAVEL BUSINESS
THROUGH US CARRIERS. IN PAST, GTRS HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO PAN AM
(ONLY US CARRIER SERVING MONROVIA) AND KLM ((GSA FOR TWA).
WHEN SABENA REP RAISED MATTER OF STATUS OF GSA AGREEMENT WITH
NATIONAL (REF B), HE ANTICIPATED THAT WITH GSA FOR NATIONAL,
SABENA OFFICE IN MONROVIA WOULD BE AUTHORIZED ACCEPT GTR'S.
HE ALSO HOPED SUCCESSFULLY PROMOTE NATIONAL'S TRANS-ATLANTIC
ROUTE TO FLORIDA.

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2. EMBASSY, IN ORDER TO INSURE US CARRIER WAS RECIPIENT OF

ALL REVENUES POSSIBLE FROM OFFICIAL TRAVEL, HAS BEEN CONSIDERING ISSUING GTR'S TO PAN AM ONLY. THIS ON ASSUMPTION THAT TICKETING AGENT RECEIVED COMMISSION FROM TICKET SALES. WE NO INFORMED THAT IATA CARRIER, TICKETING TRAVEL ON ANOTHER IATA CARRIER, DOES NOT RPT NOT RECEIVE USUAL SALES COMMISSION, BUT ONLY SOMETHING LIKE POINT ZERO TWO PERCENT (.02 PERCENT) AS HANDLING CHARGE.

3. IF THIS INFORMATION CORRECT, SIZE OF REVENUES ACCRUABLE TO PAN AM (IN MONROVIA CASE) WOULD BE MINIMAL AND PERHAPS NOT WORTH ILL-WILL GENERATED IN OTHER CARRIERS (KLM AND SABENA IN OUR CASE) IF WE RESTRICTED GTR'S TO PAN AM.

4. IN ADDITION, WE UNCLEAR AS TO THE STATUS OF A GSA FOR AN AMERICAN CARRIER AND DO NOT WANT TO TAKE MEASURES THAT COULD BE DISCRIMINATORY TO ANY US INTERESTS. BOTH KLM AND SABENA ACTIVELY PROMOTE TRAVEL TO US AND SINCE SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF NON-USG TRAVEL TO US IS VIA EUROPE, WE DO NOT WISH TO HAMPER THESE EFFORTS (WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT BOTH KLM AND SABENA WOULD PREFER CARRY TRANS-ATLANTIC PASSENGERS ON OWN LINES).

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF STATUS OF GSA FOR AMERICAN CARRIER, AND TO WHOM EMBASSY AUTHORIZED ISSUE GTR'S IN MONROVIA.
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